

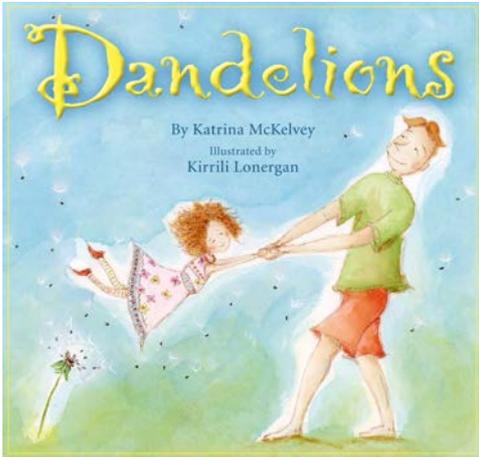
Dandelions

by

Katrina McKelvey and Kirrili Loneragan

Author Visit

A children's author visit to your school or learning centre encourages reading!



An author visit:

1. inspires everyone (including children, parents, the wider community and library staff)
2. encourages reading and writing for pleasure
3. motivates reluctant readers and writers
4. increases library use
5. offers a unique learning opportunity
6. gives the creative process a purpose
7. encourages risk taking
8. validates what is being taught in our schools
9. gives insights into the publishing world
10. is thought provoking

About Our Book:

Dandelions is the story of a little girl who one day notices her father mowing the lawn — in the process destroying her favourite flowers: the dandelions. She rushes out to stop him, but she's too late, they're all gone. There's nothing for it: she's just going to have to sit outside and wait until they grow back! But fortunately, Dad has another idea. Taking her hand, he leads her to the house, and there, nestled near the verandah post, are two tiny dandelion puff balls. Father and daughter each blow as hard as they can, and the tiny dandelion parachutes spiral and spin, up, up and away, spreading their seeds to create new generations of dandelions far and wide. And together, father and daughter lie down on the grass, watching as they whirl and twirl through the air.

Exquisite watercolour illustrations combine with lyrical text to create a story that's perfect for readers aged 4–8. This is a book that will be cherished by families and recommended by teachers and librarians, exploring as it does the resilience of nature, the art of forgiveness, and the love between a parent and child.

About the author:



Katrina McKelvey is an author, former primary school teacher, and mother of two. She is the President of the CBCA Newcastle sub-branch, and is actively involved in the Newcastle Writers Festival. She also enjoys being a Books In Homes Volunteer Role Model. *Dandelions* is Katrina's first picture book.

This is a most calming, peaceful story about enjoying being in the moment and taking time out to just be, imagine and wonder. A magical introduction to an investigation about how things grow.

- *The Bottom Shelf* (Barbara Braxton)

Visit Schedule:

Suggested Topics:

Author talk: Dandelion Magic: The Story Behind the Story of ***Dandelions***

Author talk: How is a Picture Book Made?

Workshop: Story Planning and Character Development

Full day: (choose one option)

1. 1 whole school talk and 2 workshops
2. 3 stage talks
3. Combination of talks and workshops to suit school needs

Time: 60 minutes for a talk or 90 minutes for workshops

Age: based on school needs

Group size: 30 children or less in a workshop. Any size for author talk.

Cost: \$600 full day, \$450 half day or \$250 for 1 hour session (ASA rates) but this is negotiable. Travel and accommodation expenses included for Hunter and surrounding areas only.

Book sales: If possible, I would like to sell books either before, during or after my visit. Please advertise book sales when this event is advertised. I can offer signed copies of my book at a special price of \$20 each (hardcover) instead of the RRP \$24.95.

More information about me:



Website: www.katrinamckelvey.com

Blog: <http://katrinamckelvey.blogspot.com.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/katrinamckelveyauthor/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/katrinamckelvey/>

**Book trailer can be found [here](#)
and teaching notes can be found [here](#)**

Contact me: If you would like to discuss an author visit, email me at author@katrinamckelvey.com



What a delightful book! I must admit I had tears in my eyes as I finished this story. There was so much that I adored about this book I do not know where to begin.

- Journal of the Early Childhood Teacher's Association

Lyrical and visually stunning, 'Dandelions' will spread love, appreciation and curiosity far and wide, harvesting treasured bonds between the generations. Readers from age four will be blown away by its beauty!

- Boomerang Books Blog

